

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/900,373

Examiner

Hung T Vy

Applicant(s)

LI ET AL.

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 07/22/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-5,16-19 and 33.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 06 July 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

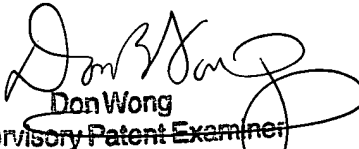
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Don Wong
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800

Reasons for Allowance

1. Claims 2-5, 16-19, 33 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reason for allowance:

None of the references of record teaches or suggests the claimed a laser, comprising: a gain medium having first and second output facets, the gain medium emitting a coherent beam from the first output facet along an optical path; an end mirror located in the optical path, the end mirror and the second output facet defining an external cavity; **a laser mode selector positioned in the optical path before the end mirror; a laser mode tuning assembly operatively coupled to the end mirror to adjust the position of the end mirror to adjust the optical path length of the external cavity to lock the laser onto a peak of a first passband, the first passband representing the laser mode; a laser channel selector positioned in the optical path; and a laser channel tuning assembly operatively coupled to the laser channel selector to adjust the position of the laser channel selector to lock the laser channel onto a peak of a second passband, the second passband representing the laser channel; the laser channel tuning assembly further coupled to adjust the position of the laser channel selector to unlock the laser channel from the peak of the second passband, while the laser mode tuning assembly is to maintain the laser mode locked onto the first passband.**

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

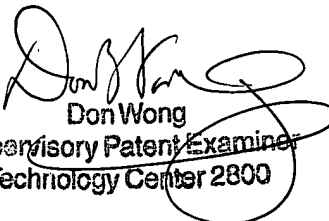
Art Unit: 2821

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung VY whose telephone number is (571) 272-1954. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 5:30pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, DON WONG can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published application may be obtained from either private Pair or Public Pair. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private Pair only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have question on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hung T. Vy
Art Unit 2828
September 28, 2004


Don Wong
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800

Application/Control Number: 09/900,373
Art Unit: 2821

Page 4

Hung T. Vy
Art Unit 2828
October 28, 2003